



239343

DATE: November 24, 1994

TO: File

FROM: Dave Minnaar *DM*SUBJECT: Telephone Discussion with David Hahn and  
Kathleen Hahn

During an attempted telephone contact with David Hahn on 11-23-94, his step mother indicated David is hard to reach and it would be best to call him on Thanksgiving morning to catch him at home.

David lives with his father (Ken) and step mother (Kathleen) at Clinton Township in Macomb County

#### Discussion with David

I talked with David on 11-24-94 and described our public health and regulatory concerns relating to his handling of radioactive materials.

David claimed he was aware that alpha emitters can be dangerous if inhaled or ingested and claimed he was "very careful."

David claimed that he bought parts to make a geiger-counter and then used it to drive around looking for "hot rocks" and other radioactive raw materials he could use to refine and produce his own sources. He was especially interested in making thorium in a form he could use to produce energy. He further hoped his successes would help him earn his eagle scout status with the Boy Scouts.

He claimed he found a "pitchblende" type mineral on the shores of Lake Huron and, using a mineral reference book, he applied chemical separation procedures to refine the thorium product using HCl acid, filtration, and barium-sulfate coprecipitation. He claimed he separated out about 1 milligram of radium during his thorium processing. He claimed the "radium is lost". He doesn't know what happened to it.

He also said that the police never found the other sources he had in his car when he was arrested. He said uranyl-nitrate and more thorium was still in the car. He claimed his home-made geiger-counter was extremely sensitive to both beta and alpha particles, but because the police broke it, he needed to find or purchase a replacement.

When asked where the radioactive materials could now be that he had ever used, he said there were a couple sources in his lab in the shed at his mother's house in Union Lake and that the sources in his car are now "gone." He said there was no contamination anywhere because he was careful.

I convinced him that to be sure there was no significant problem, we would arrange to survey his car and the shed at his mother's house and advise him of our findings. He agreed and said he would meet us at his father's home in Clinton Township on Monday, 11-28-94 at 2:00 P.M. to have his car surveyed.

I then spoke with Kathleen Hahn to explain our concerns. She too was concerned and recommended we directly talk to David's mother, Patricia Hahn, at her Union Lake home about the plans to survey the shed